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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Arctic)

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Naval Gunnery Exercise and Naval Formations in the Barents Sea  
2. Destroyer in Tow by a Cruiser in the Barents Sea

DATE DISTR. 15 March 1957 25X1

NO. PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. RD.

REFERENCES ENCLOSURE ATTACH 25X1  
PLEASE ROUTE

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE &amp; DATE ACQ

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Attachment No. 1 A one-page report describing an illumination-firing exercise off Kharlov Island.

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Attachment No. 2 A two-page report, with four sketches, which describes naval formations encountered in the Barents Sea. Aircraft circled vessel at the time of observation.

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Attachment No. 3 A two-page report, with two sketches, which describes a cruiser towing a destroyer at position N 69-48, E 34-26. A seaplane was observed circling the two vessels. A tanker of about 14,000 tons was also observed in the vicinity.

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ATTACHMENT # 3

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Information on the USSR.

Area: The Barents Sea

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1. Navy

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[redacted] two naval vessels were observed in position 69°48' N - 34°26' E. The largest of them (a "cruiser") was towing the smaller (a "destroyer"). Course 170° true. Speed very slow. Distance between the vessels about two cablelengths. No smoke from the funnels of the towed vessel. The vessels first appeared on the radar screen [redacted]

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[redacted] but were later observed in the line of the wake, with the towline visible.

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Description of the cruiser: [redacted] two funnels, midship structure built to width of hull, break from foredeck far aft, two gun turrets on foredeck and two aft. (See sketch).

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Description of the destroyer: [redacted] Length about two thirds that of the cruiser, break from foredeck aft of forward funnel, two funnels with different smoke deflectors, the aft deflector sloping at a more acute angle and being more rounded at the forward edge, pole mast forward of each funnel, forward funnel and mast close to the bridge structure. (See sketch).

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On the same day [redacted] a naval vessel, probably a destroyer of the same class [redacted] was observed about 20 miles east of the above mentioned position at very great distance. The destroyer was proceeding on a southerly course at very great speed.

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2. Aircraft

[redacted] an aircraft was observed circling above naval vessels numbers 30 and 22 mentioned above. The plane circled the source's ship once, and disappeared in the direction of land. Description: Seaplane with wingtip floats, twin engines, high wings, twin siderudders.

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3. Merchant vessels

[redacted] a tanker was seen in position 69°42' N - 33°44' E. The vessel was steering a course about 317° true. The tanker was of about 14,000 tons, and apparently in ballast.

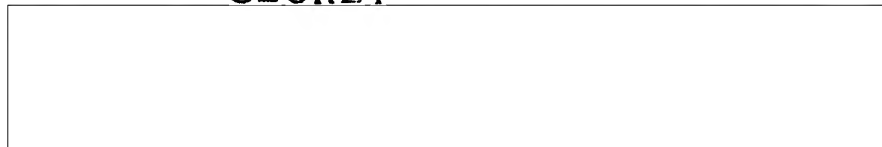
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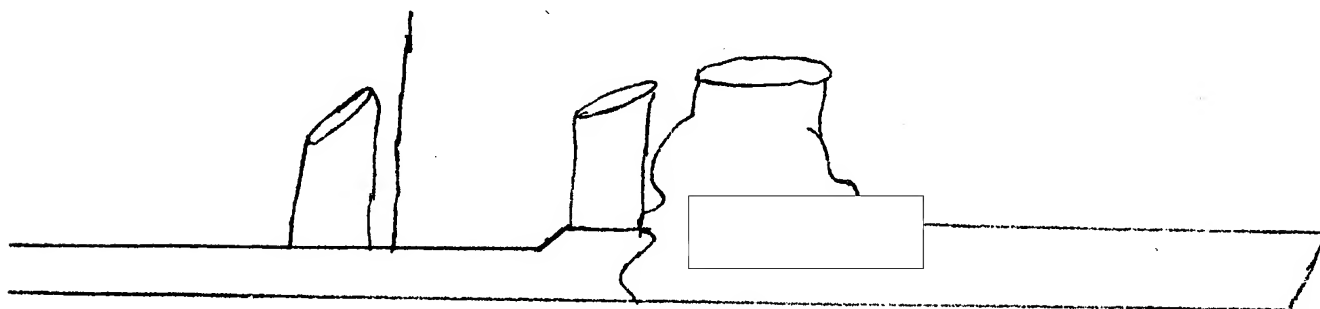
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**Skisse nr. 1**



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**Skisse nr. 2**

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ATTACHMENT # 1



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Information on the USSR

Area: The Barents Sea




1. Navy

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 some naval vessels were observed apparently lying still about five miles outside Kharlov Island. Observation distance, about four miles. The vessels were lighted. Judging by the lights, one of them was very large.

Flares were fired, probably from the large vessel. The flares were very powerful, but did not hang in the air very long. They were fired toward land. No aircraft, and no firing observed.

 reasons for believing these were naval vessels were the firing of the flares, the lanterns shown, and the lighting of the vessels.

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ATTACHMENT # 2

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Information on the USSR,

Area: The Barents Sea

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1. Navy

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[redacted] three very large naval vessels were observed in positions 69°26' N - 34°51' E, 69°24' N - 34°48' E, and 69°26' N - 34°51' E. The vessels were proceeding at a speed of 20 miles on a course about 290° true. Formation: starboard flank. Observation distance about nine miles. Later, the vessels changed course several times, but maintained the same formation. The vessels were of two types:

Description, type 1: Estimated length 700 feet, two funnels, tripod masts immediately forward of each funnel, very large bridge structure. Armament not observed, but at least one gun turret on foredeck and one on afterdeck. Break from foredeck, probably amidships. Distance between funnels about one sixth or one seventh of the length of the vessel. (See sketch no. 1).

Description, type 2: There were two vessels of this type, apparently identical. Length somewhat greater than that of type 1. Funnels, masts, superstructure, and gun turrets as in ~~type~~ type 1, no break from foredeck observed, but several steps aft. The length of the vessel was about 30 times the height of the forward superstructure. (See sketch no 2).

No other vessels seen in the vicinity, but an airplane circled [redacted]

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[redacted] for 25 minutes [redacted]

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[redacted]  
[redacted] in position  $69^{\circ}17' N - 35^{\circ}15' E$ ,  
[redacted]

one large and three ~~xxxx~~ smaller naval vessels and a submarine were observed at a distance of 9 to 10 miles. They were proceeding at relatively slow speed on a course about  $280^{\circ}$  true. The large vessel was in the center, with the smaller vessels scattered around it. Description of the large vessel: One funnel, two pole masts, break from foredeck at the funnel. The clear foredeck occupied about one twelvth of the length of the vessel. (See sketch no. 3). No description of the other vessels.

## 2. Aircraft

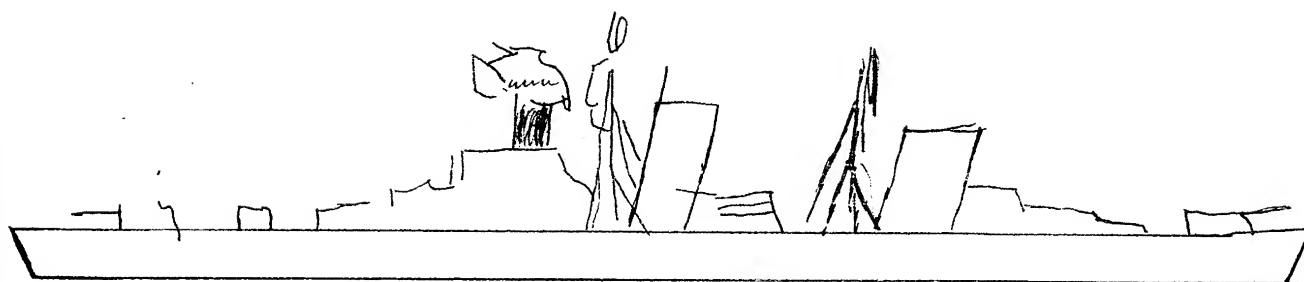
[redacted] an aircraft circled the [redacted] ship 25X1  
twice in position  $69^{\circ}36' N - 34^{\circ}57' E$ .

Description: Twin engine seaplane, twin side rudders, painted 25X1  
grey-green with a red star in a white ring on the siderudder.  
(See sketch no. 4).

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NR. 1

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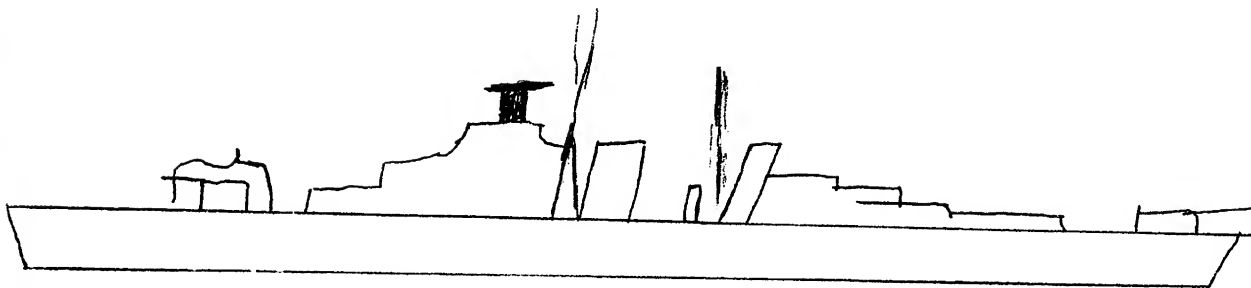
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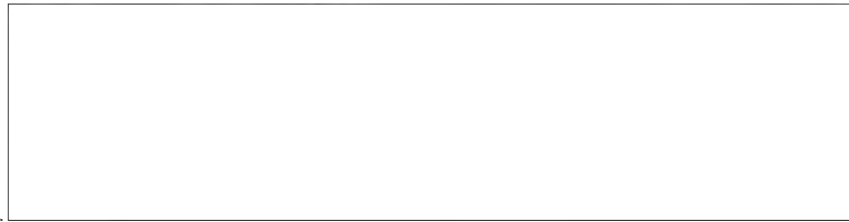


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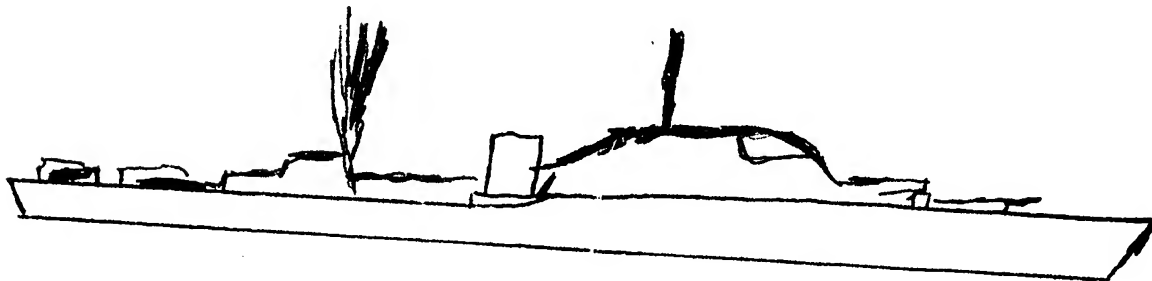
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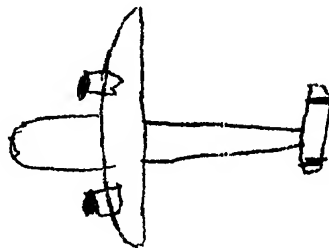


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NR. 3

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NR. 4

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